

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/527,691

Applicant(s)

YAMAGUCHI, MASAHIKO

Examiner

Taghi T. Arani

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/7/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,15,17,19,21 and 22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 March 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


AYAZ SHEIKH

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 5 and 20 are canceled.

Claims 1, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 22 are pending in the Application

Claims 1, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 22 are allowed over prior art of record.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Klock on May 9, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

- I. Cancel claims 5 and 20.
- II. Amend Claims 1, 15, 17, 19, 20-22 as below.

Replace the semicolon “;” at line 5 of claim 1 with “, wherein the extracting means extracts the predetermined discrete bits by sampling at a predetermined interval of bits from each code;” .

Replace the semicolon “;” at line 5 of claim 15 with “, wherein the extracting step extracts the predetermined discrete bits by sampling at a predetermined interval of bits from each code;” .

Replace the semicolon “;” at line 6 of claim 17 with “, wherein the extracting step extracts the predetermined discrete bits by sampling at a predetermined interval of bits from each code;” .

Replace the semicolon “;” at line 5 of claim 19 with “, wherein the predetermined bit positions are a predetermined number of upper bit positions;” .

Replace the semicolon “;” at line 5 of claim 21 with “, wherein the predetermined bit positions are a predetermined number of upper bit positions;” .

Replace the semicolon “;” at line 4 of claim 22 with “, wherein the predetermined bit positions are a predetermined number of upper bit positions;” .

Examiner’s Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 22 are allowed. are allowed over prior art.

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for the indication of allowable claimed subject matter.

The subject matter regarded as allowable by the examiner is found in claims 1, 15 and 17, wherein the extracting means extracts the predetermined discrete bits by sampling at a predetermined interval of bits from each code (i.e. bits 15th, 11th, 7th. And 3rd in sampling voice data are extracted and encrypted, Specification, page 11, second paragraph) and in claims 19, 21 and 22, wherein the predetermined bit positions are a predetermined number of upper bit positions (i.e. only the upper four bits of each R,G, and B three colors are extracted in an image data and encrypted, Specification, page 10, second Paragraph) .

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None of the prior art of record, either taken by itself or in any combination, would have anticipated or made obvious the invention of the present application at or before the time it was filed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

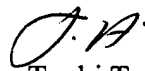
Prior arts made of record, not relied upon:

USP 5, 764, 770 is directed to an apparatus for producing a self-authenticating visual image of a selected view, using a digital image forming means, such as a digital camera, together with a position determining system that provides position information, including location and/or angular orientation and/or time of observation at the time a digital image is formed. The digital image of the selected view is presented as an array of pixels with associated pixel values. The position information is incorporated in the digital image by altering selected pixel bit values for a selected authentication pattern P of pixels in a chosen subset CS of the pixel array; and this selected pattern may be determined using the position information. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Taghi T. Arani whose telephone number is (571) 272-3787. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 Mon-Fri.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).




Taghi T. Arani, Ph.D.

Examiner

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5/10/05



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100